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To: Frances DuPey, Gerry Scheub, Mark Kalwinski, Ron Novak, Mike Boos, Jim Vanderkloot, Verneta Simon, Anita Boseman, Karen Bandhauer, Tom Bloom, Stuart Hill, Sally Jansen, Clayton Koher
From: Alisa Hefner, E² Inc.
Re: **Calumet Container Site**
Date: October 19, 2005

Introduction:

This memo is an update to the key findings memo dated 9/30/2005 and provides local officials and stakeholders with additional information on removal action activities at the Calumet Container site.

Updates:

1. E² Inc. has not received any comments on the key findings memo. Please let E² Inc know as soon as possible if there are any comments on the memo summary's findings.
2. In efforts to acquire the two privately owned parcels located within the site, Lake County has contacted Mr. Holmes and the attorney for Mr. Zeman. Mr. Holmes appears willing to transfer his property to the county, while Mr. Zeman's intentions have not yet been determined. Mr. Zeman has been traveling out of the country.
3. The site's removal action requires the excavation and removal of contaminated soils to a depth of two feet. Mixed hardwood trees grow on most of the site and would need to be removed prior to excavation. On September 21, a representative from E² Inc. met on site with:
Tom Bloom, *EPA Region 5, SRI Coordinator*
Anita Boseman, *EPA Region 5, On Scene Coordinator*
Jeff Rhinefield, *EQM, Inc. Response Manager*
Dave Frank, *Tetra Tech, Inc.*
Daniel Goldfarb, *Wildlife Habitat Council, Program Manager*

The purpose of the meeting was to review the on-site tree clearing to determine which trees could be retained to support the anticipated future use of the site as a park. Given the extent of contamination and site access, tree protection was limited to the northwest and northeast corners of the property. E² Inc. developed a tree protection plan for the site based on the conclusions from that meeting (see Figure).



4. Tree clearing began at the site on October 6, 2005. Trees in the southern portion of the site were removed because a majority of these soils are contaminated. Pockets of uncontaminated soils exist in the northwest corner and around the pond in the northeast corner. Trees in these areas were retained to the extent possible, although future sampling may determine that these trees will need to be removed as well.
5. E² Inc. has not heard from EPA regarding technical and planning assistance for the City of Hammond and Lake County to consider how the site's removal action and wetland restoration can be optimally integrated with local planning efforts.
6. E² Inc. will update key stakeholders as new information becomes available.

Figure: Tree Protection Plan
September 2005

